

**Virginia Board of Education  
Graduation and Dropout Committee  
October 25, 2006  
1 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.**

**James Monroe Building  
22<sup>nd</sup> Floor – Jefferson Conference Room  
Richmond, Virginia**

**Committee Members Present:** Mr. Andrew J. Rotherham, Co-Chair; Dr. Ella P. Ward, Co-Chair; Dr. Mark E. Emblidge; Dr. Thomas M. Brewster; Mrs. Isis M. Castro; Mr. David L. Johnson; Mr. Kelvin A. Moore; and Mrs. Eleanor B. Saslaw; Dr. Billy K. Cannaday

**Purpose of Meeting:** To review a comparison of various calculations used to report graduation rates and to discuss recommendations for House Bill 19

**Summary of Committee Meeting:**

1. Mr. Rotherham and Dr. Ward stated the purpose of the meeting
2. Mr. Lan Neugent, assistant superintendent, Division of Technology and Human Resources, Virginia Department of Education, presented a crosswalk comparison of various graduation rate formulae that was requested by the committee at the September 2006 meeting.
  - a. Crosswalk with various graduation rate calculations
    - i. Virginia NCLB Rate
    - ii. Virginia Unadjusted Rate
    - iii. NCES Averaged Freshmen Rate
    - iv. Urban Institute Cumulative Promotion Index
    - v. National Governor's Association (NGA) On-time Graduation Rate
    - vi. Warren Estimated Completion
    - vii. Green Adjusted Completion Rate
  - b. Discussion about House Bill 19 and the report to be submitted to the General Assembly by December 1, 2006
    - i. Background of the legislation
    - ii. A recommended plan of action
    - iii. Recommendation that NGA rate be adopted
  - c. Discussion of proposal to amend Virginia's *No Child Left Behind* Accountability Workbook related to graduation rate annual measurable objectives

- d. Comments from Dr. Patricia Wright, chief deputy superintendent, Virginia Department of Education, concerning her work with the National Governors Association on graduation and dropout rate calculations

3. Public comments

- a. Dr. Anthony S. Brads, superintendent, Botetourt County Public Schools
- b. Angela Ciolfi, representative from the JustChildren Program, Legal Aid Justice Center
- c. Cindy Hetzel, representative from Voices for Virginia's Children

4. Mr. Rotherham and Dr. Ward provided closing remarks.